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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

ARCANGEL et al.

Confirmation No.: 7355

Serial No.: 10/658,782

Art Unit: 1648

Filing Date: September 8, 2003

Examiner: M. Franco Salvoza

Title: HCV ASSAY

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed December 20, 2005, with a shortened statutory period of three months for response, accordingly, a Petition to Extend Time and the required fee accompanies this response. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

**A listing of claims** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.